DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

1510 GILBERT STREET NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737 TEL: (757) 322-2853 FAX: (757) 445-1953



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

031-03

September 16, 2003

Media Advisory

HURRICANE CONDITION II SET

Norfolk, VA (CNRMA) – Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic has set Tropical Cyclone Condition Two in the Hampton Roads area effective at 8 pm tonight.

Dismissal of personnel will be at the discretion of each commanding officer and will be determined by the track and strength of the storm. Navy officials continue to monitor the storm and changes will be announced as soon as known. Currently in the Mid-Atlantic Region, all Alpha (essential) Personnel are to report as scheduled. Bravo (non-essential) are to report as directed.

The Norfolk Naval Shipyard will operate a regular work day tomorrow, with liberal leave authorized.

Tropical Cyclone Condition Two means destructive weather associated with a tropical system is possible at Naval Station Norfolk within 24 hours. Destructive winds are considered sustained winds of greater than 50 knots.

Navy families are encouraged to stay tuned to local radio and television stations and follow evacuation or shelter information for their neighborhood. Families can also call the Fleet and Family Support Center of Hampton Roads (FFSC) at 1-800-FSC-LINE or 444-NAVY for more information.

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) and area branch clinics will remain open as long as conditions permit. If personnel have questions about their appointment, they can call the Tricare Service Center at 1-800-931-9501.

Obstetric services at NMCP will be fully functional throughout Hurricane Isabel. The clinic has opened a hotline to address any concerns that may arise for pregnant patients, to include offering shelter during the storm.

The Hampton Roads Naval Museum and the USS Wisconsin will be closed Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Daily tours of Naval Station Norfolk on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday have been cancelled.

The Rascal Flats concert scheduled for Friday evening at Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek has been cancelled.

The Defense Commissary operating hours for Norfolk, Portsmouth, Little Creek and Naval Air Station, Oceana will be from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

About 40 Hampton Roads-based ships and submarines got underway this morning, as well as approximately 50 aircraft, to avoid potential damage to ships and piers from anticipated hurricane-force winds and high tidal surges.

For further information on the sortie of ships, Navy closings, or hurricane conditions, check the web site: www.cnrma.navy.mil .

-USN-

NOTE TO MEDIA FOR SCROLLERS:

Naval Station Norfolk – Alpha-report/Bravo-as directed Naval Air Station Oceana – Alpha-report/Bravo-as directed Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek – Alpha-report/Bravo-as directed Naval Weapons Station Yorktown – Alpha-report/Bravo-as directed Norfolk Naval Shipyard – Regular work day/Liberal leave authorized